scheme 'Assistance to State Poultry/Duck Farms' wherein one-time assistance is provided to strengthen farms in respect of hatcheries, brooding and rearing houses, provision for feed mill, feed analysis laboratory and in-house disease diagnostic facilities. These State poultry/duck farms assist the local population in rearing low-input technology poultry birds in backyard conditions.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The four Centers of the Central Poultry Development Organisation located at Chandigarh, Bhubaneswer, Mumbai and Bangalore provide training to farmers, women, poultry units in private and public sector, NGOs and cooperatives in various aspects of poultry rearing. Further, similar activities are also undertaken by the State poultry farms in their respective States.

Lesser price for agricultural produce

1390. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our farmers of vegetables and fruits, due to chain of intermediaries and high transportation costs, lose marketing competitiveness with global growers;

(b) if so, whether our marginal farmers end up with just 15-20 per cent of the final price as against 30-40 per cent in US and other developed countries; and

(c) how Government propose to effectively deal with this type of rentier-dominated set up which is creating a perverse set of incentives and disincentives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Various studies show that our farmers are normally realizing only 33 to 75 % share of the price paid by the consumers for fruits and vegetables, which varies from commodity to commodity and depends upon the types of marketing channels involved in the transactions. In USA and other developed countries, the price realization by the farmers is much higher compared to India due to less number of intermediaries involved and market efficiency.

(c) With a view to make alternative and efficient marketing channels available to the farmers, this Ministry has prepared and circulated a Model Law on Agricultural Marketing to all the States/UTs in 2003 for making necessary amendments in their respective Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Acts to provide for direct marketing, contract farming and setting up of markets in private and cooperative sectors. This legal framework would enable the development of suitable value-addition and marketing infrastructure in public-private partnership mode which will make the marketing system efficient, reduce the intermediaries, help in developing shorter and integrated supply chains with lesser post-harvest losses, which would help farmers in realizing better price for their produce. By now, 19 States and Union Territories have implemented market reforms as suggested by this Ministry. There are no APMC Acts in 7 States and Union Territories.